

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed December 16, 2008, in connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicants elect Group I (claims 1, 2 and 6). Primers RHDe92 (SEQ ID NO: 3) and RHDe9A (SEQ ID NO: 4) are further elected. The elections are made with traverse.

Claims 3-5, 7-25, and 30-36 have been withdrawn. New claim 37 is added.

Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that the claims do relate to a single general inventive concept and do share a special technical feature. The primers and probes disclosed in the application do not encode protein or polypeptide per se but enable the detection of single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in blood group and/or platelet antigens. As such, the search should not unduly burden the Examiner. Applicants request the Restriction Requirement be withdrawn.

It is submitted, therefore, that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Should any fee deficiencies be associated with this submission, the Commissioner is authorized to debit such deficiencies to the Nixon Peabody Deposit Account No. 50-0850. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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